VZCZCXYZ0003 RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHTI #0731 2820629 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 080629Z OCT 08 FM AMEMBASSY TIRANA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7479

UNCLAS TIRANA 000731

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/SCE
DEPT PLS PASS TO OPIC WPEARCE, JHANSLEY

E.O. 12958:N/A TAGS: <u>EINV</u> <u>AL</u>

SUBJECT: ALBANIA WILL BENEFIT FROM NEW PRIVATE EQUITY FUND

REF: STATE 103210

Embassy welcomes potential investment in Albania from reftel-proposed OPIC-supported private equity fund. Since Albania is 99 percent reliant on hydroelectric power, investment in renewable energy and energy conservation could make a substantial difference in Albania's economic development and foreign investment potential.

WITHERS